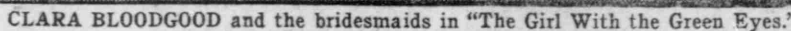


## A Poet's Movement to Abolish Stage Settings—Why It Can Never Succeed. Modern Plays Are Best.

These columns described not long ago a Japanese play which consisted almost entirely of stage settings and imagination. Yet an American who saw it described it "horrible beyond expression. Awful! Awful!" What would Mr. Yeats do with a work like that? The truth of the matter is that dramatic art is essentially a union of other arts. It depends alike on sculpture, painting, music, and literature. It uses them all



Although said to be unique among Fitch plays in having a progressive and dramatic plot, "Tittie the Gypsy Eyes" is not lacking in those "features" that the public has come to expect from this brilliant dramatist. In the first act he shows a smart wedding, pictorial in its scenes and costumes, joyous in its dialogue, and pathetic in its depiction of a girl's departure from her loving parents and the home of her childhood. But a scene widely discussed in New York last season occurs in the second act, where a party of Cook's

Firm for Mrs. Fiske.

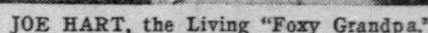
"Salt Lake Herald" Takes a Decided Stand.

Mrs. Fiske's engagement at Salt Lake City was hailed as the event of the local dramatic season. The "Herald" of that city, in an editorial, said:

"The appearance of Mrs. Fiske at the Grand Theater calls attention anew to the fact that this, the greatest actress

Phoebe Davies was born in Wales, but her importation was accomplished when she was only seven years of age, and the credit of it belongs to her father.

men failed to double her fingers, even though; they pushed so hard that the line doubled up and broke, much to the amusement of the audience. Ten of them held a billiard cue, with another man seated on top of it, and yet she lifted it from the floor by simply placing her hand against it. A boy in the audience was singled out and requested to stand in the aisle, and after instructions from Miss Abbott to look steadily at her and concentrate his attention on the idea that he could not be lifted from



the point of persuading a star actress to interrupt a tour, as a friendly favor, to try to outshine Mrs. Bloodgood in the part of Mrs. Lake.

But these quarrels were mere side issues to the main controversy as to what actress may rightfully claim Mr. Fitch as her own dramatist. The decision may well award the title to the actress who has best interpreted the work of Mr. Fitch. Parts stand this way: Mrs. Bingham, three; Mrs. Bloodgood, three; Maxine Elliott, three;

"A woman is not likely to become a really great musician. In its higher branches it is a man's field. It would not do to play better than any other woman, nor even to play as well as the best men. One would have to play better than anyone else in all the world and I'm quite sure I would never be able to do that. I shall become an actress."

And so it was decided. The five gen-